(d) by when a door to door survey about the functioning of the meters is likely to be conducted; and

(e) by when first electricity bills are likely to be issued to the consumers for payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The defects in the electric meter may occur due to overloading, short circuiting etc. and development of some fault in the electro-mechanical device after energisation of the connection.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

(d) Since the complaints for replacement of the fast running/non-functioning of meters are attended to by the concerned DESU staff within a reasonable time, there is no proposal to conduct a door to door survey in this regard.

(e) According to DESU, the first bills to the consumers in Parijat Apartments are likely to be issued by October, 1991. Arrangements have also been made to facilitate preparation and issue of first bills to the consumers in Sansad Vihar at the earliest.

Conference of Chairmen of State Electricity Boards

903. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of Chairmen of State Electricity Boards was held in early July, 1991 to consider the various common issues;

(b) if so, the precise issues discussed therein and the decisions taken; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the light of the decisions taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

ऊर्जा विकास एजेंसी का कार्यकरण

904. श्री राम सिंह राठवा : क्या विद्युत और गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ऊर्जा विकास एजेंसी अपने उद्देश्यों में असफल रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान इसके क्या लक्ष्य थे तथा इन लक्ष्यों को कहां तक प्राप्त किया जासका; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस असफलता के लिए एजेंसी के अधिकारियों को जिम्मेवार ठहराया है ; यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

विद्युत और गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) : (क) और (ख) भारतीय अक्षय ऊर्जा विकास संस्था (संभवत: यह संदर्भ इस संस्था के बारे में है) अपने उद्देश्यों में सफल रही है। 1988–89, 1989–90 तथा 1990–91 के दौरान यह संस्था द्वारा क्रमश: 20, 31 तथा 55 परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत की गई जबकि इनका लक्ष्य क्रमश: 20 31 तथा 40 परियोजनाएं थी। संस्था ने उपर्यक्त तीन वर्षों में क्रमश: लगभग 48 लाख रुपए, 80 लाख रुपए तथा

124 लाख रुपए का लाभ (कर से पहले) भी कमाया है।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Low power generation by Power Plants

905. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the power plants are generating power below their installed capacity;

(b) if so, what is the number of such plants and their location; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor and details of the steps being taken to improve their productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) THE MINISTRY OP POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) State-wise power stations having low energy generation as compared to the target during April—August, 1991 is given in Statement. *[See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 87],

'(e) Generation of power depends both *on* the requirements (Load) and transmission and distribution system constraints. It is, therefore, not possible to generate power from generating units to its full capacity as performance of power station depends upon a number of factors including planned maintenance, forced outages etc. in the case of thermal and nuclear units and availability of water in the reservoirs in the case of hydro units. The power generation also depends on the system -load conditions which varies within the day between peak hours and off-peak hours. Various measures taken to improve the generation of thermal stations include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to State Electricity Boards in underaking Plant betterment programme, supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal, training of personnel, and improvement in transmission network.

Coal reserves in Tindharia area in Darjeeling district

906. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that coal reserves exist in the entire Tindharia area in the district of Darjeeling in West Bengal where hundreds of families are earning their livelihood by selling the coal pieces or dusts;

(b) if so, whether any survey of the area has been made; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) to (c) Geological Survey of India (GSI) have conducted regional exploration to locate coal reserves in Tindharia area in the district of Darjeeling, West Bengal. Occurrence of thin Impersistent coal seems as lenses and pockets have been reported under difficult Geo-mining condition in the Tindharia area of Darjeeling district. As a result of exploration carried out by GSI, a total of 15 million tonnes of coal reserves have been estimated in Darjeeling Coalfield. There is no information about the selling of coal by people of Tindharia area.

Non-receipt of electricity bills in **Aram Bagh Government Colony**

907. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to UnStarred Question 359 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the consumers of Block No. 170, Aram Bagh, a Government colony are now receiving their electricity bills regularly from D.E.S.U.;